

### CLAIMS

1. Use, as active ingredient, in a cosmetic composition or for the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition, of an effective quantity of at least one fatty substance free of carbohydrate units, having a melting point of less than 35°C and having an interfacial tension of between 6 and 27 mN/m, modifying the physicochemical properties of the surface of the skin and/or of the mucous membranes so as to prevent or reduce the adhesion of microorganisms to the latter.
2. Use according to Claim 1, characterized in that the active ingredient is chosen from fatty acid triglycerides, vegetable oils and fatty esters comprising one or more linear or branched chains, comprising 8 to 30 carbon atoms.
3. Use according to either of Claims 1 and 2, characterized in that the active ingredient is chosen from caprylic/capric acid triglycerides, wheatgerm oil, calendula oil, castor oil, olive oil, avocado oil, sweet almond oil, groundnut oil, jojoba oil, sesame oil, apricot oil, sunflower oil, macadamia oil, shea butter, hexyl laurate, decyl oleate, octyl dodecyl neopentanoate, isopropyl myristate, isopropyl isostearate, isopropyl stearate, dioctyl adipate, isononyl isononanoate, tartrate of branched C<sub>12</sub>-C<sub>13</sub> dialcohols, octoxyglyceryl palmitate, octoxyglyceryl behenate and/or mixtures thereof, isopropyl palmitate and di(C<sub>12</sub>-C<sub>13</sub> alkyl) malate such as the product sold under the name Cosmacol FM by the company Enichem.
4. Use according to any one of Claims 1 to 3,

10.       Cosmetic use by topical application of at least one fatty substance free of carbohydrate units, having a melting point of less than 35°C and having an interfacial

tension of between 6 and 27 mN/m as active ingredient in a cosmetic composition intended to reduce bad body odours and/or intended for body hygiene health care.

11. Cosmetic use by topical application of at least one fatty substance free of carbohydrate units, having a melting point of less than 35°C and having an interfacial tension of between 6 and 27 mN/m as active ingredient in a cosmetic composition intended to combat comedones and/or dandruff.

12. Use of at least one fatty substance free of carbohydrate units, having a melting point of less than 35°C and having an interfacial tension of between 6 and 27 mN/m as active ingredient for the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition intended to be used by topical application to combat mycosis and/or acne.

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